

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

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UNCLAS USUN 4641

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, SHUM, SGEN

SUBJECT: THIRD COMMITTEE--ITEM 83, PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL VALUES

1. AT ITS OCT 21 MORNING SESSION THE THIRD COMMITTEE ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS THE POLISH DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/C.3/31/L.8/REV.1) ON ITEM 83. THE DELEGATES OF SURINAM, ARGENTINA, TANZANIA, SWAZILAND, THE NETHERLAND, AND THE US DELIVERED EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE. THE DUTCH DELEGATE DECLARED ON BEHALF OF THE EC-9 THAT THOSE DELEGATIONS ACCEPTED THE RESOLUTION ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT IT NOT PREJUDICE THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES TO THE HELSINKI AGREEMENT. SPEAKING FOR THE US, AMBASSADOR MYERSON STATED THAT THE US SUPPORTS UNESCO'S ROLE IN THE PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL VALUES, BUT THAT WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES WITH THE EC-9 STATEMENT REGARDING THE HELSINKI AGREEMENT, THE TANZANIAN DELEGATE DELIVERED A MODERATE STATEMENT STRESSING THAT CULTURAL CONTACTS AND EXCHANGES ENRICH NATIONAL CULTURE. THE DELEGATE OF SWAZILAND SAID THAT MODERNIZATION HAD "DISRUPTED TRADITIONAL VALUES" OF HIS SOCIETY AND CALLED FOR THE RESTITUTION OF NATIONAL ART TREASURES.

2. THE EGYPTIAN DELEGATE INTRODUCED HIS DRAFT RESOLUTION ON ITEM 83 (A/C.3/31/L.13, DATAFAXED TO IO/UNESCO, O'BRIEN) AND STRESSED WHAT HE CONSIDERS THAT STRONG RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL
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VALUES AND THE RESTITUTION OF WORKS OF ART. HE SAID

THAT THE DRAFT DOES NOT MENTION STEPS TO BE TAKEN
TOWARDS THE RESTITUTION OF WORKS OF ART SINCE THE GA
WILL CONSIDER A SEPARATE ITEM ON THAT SUBJECT.

3. HAVING APPEALED TO THE CHAIRMAN FOR AN EXTENSION
OF THE DEADLINE FOR DRAFTS ON THIS ITEM, THE NIGERIAN
DELEGATE CIRCULATED A DRAFT RESOLUTION REGARDING WHAT
SHE BILLED AS AN "UNCONTROVERSAIL" BLACK ARTS FESTIVAL
TO BE HELD IN HER COUNTRY . A COPY OF THAT DRAFT IS
BEING DATAFAXED TO IO/UNESCO, O'BRIEN.
BENNETT

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